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FM AMEMBASSY SUVA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3505
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 1417
RUEHPB/AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY PRIORITY 1010
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 1198
RHHJJAA/JICPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SUVA 000534

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/05/2016

TAGS: PREL PGOV FJ

SUBJECT: PIF EMINENT PERSONS GROUP FOR FIJI ON HOLD

REF: A. STATE 195037

1B. SUVA 529
1C. SYDNEY 1511

Classified By: Amb. Dinger. Sec. 1.4 (B,D).

11. (C) We conveyed Ref A points regarding an "eminent persons group" to Pacific Island Forum (PIF) Secretary General Urwin in late a.m. of 12/5. This was before many of today's events unfolded in Fiji (see septels). Urwin noted, per Ref B, that the PIF was awaiting a Fiji Cabinet invitation for the EPG; but given developments, the chances of PM Qarase's Cabinet having a chance to meet seemed to be dimming. Thus, any visit of the EPG was currently on hold. When we noted some reports that the EPG might fly into Fiji today, Urwin made clear that would not be in the cards.

12. (C) We will retain Ref A talking points on the chance that the PIF can still find a way for the EPG to play a role in resolving Fiji's crisis.

DINGER